

REASONS TO CELEBRATE WIC'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. STUPAK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words today about the WIC program, a program dedicated to improving the nutrition and health care needs of low-income women, infants and children.

WIC is celebrating 25 years of service, Mr. Speaker. The value of these 25 years is illustrated by a few key facts expressed in terms of dollars.

Every dollar spent on pregnant women in WIC produces between \$1.92 and \$4.21 in Medicaid savings for newborns and their mothers. Medicaid costs were reduced on average by \$12,000 to \$15,000 per infant for every low-birth-weight birth prevented because the mother was involved in the WIC program during her pregnancy.

There is a lot more, Mr. Speaker, in terms of dollars saved and common sense, but there is a more important savings, a human savings. WIC children get a better start in life, they do better in school, and they lead healthier lives. All this translates into an overall better quality of life, and that is the real reason for celebrating WIC's 25th anniversary.

INFORMATION, PLEASE

(Mr. EWING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, this week we will be voting on the supplemental appropriation to provide funds for the Kosovo operation. Unfortunately, the administration has done little to inform Members of Congress. It is strange that people like former Senator Bob Dole, former Ambassador Jean Kirkpatrick have been more vocal, more available to Members of Congress to explain their position on the need for U.S. involvement than we have received from this administration.

I am yet not convinced of the wisdom of this operation or what the national interest is for Americans. I question, too, whether we need to be paying 90 percent or 85 percent or even 70 percent of the cost. Remember, in other operations such as this our allies have indeed contributed.

Why have we not sought their contributions? Why have we not had more information? Why do we not know the true need for our involvement in Kosovo?

RUSSIA OPPOSES NATO, SUPPORTS MILOSEVIC, DUMPS STEEL ILLEGALLY INTO THE UNITED STATES AND STILL EXPECTS US TO LOAN THEM ANOTHER \$23 BILLION

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Uncle Sam and the International Monetary Fund have loaned Russia billions and billions of dollars, and with each loan Russia promised to repay. Guess what? Russia says, and I quote, they cannot repay their loans this year, next year, not even in 10 years.

How is that to fund the KGB, Congress?

Russia says though, and I quote, Russia still expects America to loan them another \$23 billion to carry on with their reforms.

Beam me up here. I say, "Expect this."

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the facts that Russia opposes NATO, supports Milosevic and dumps steel illegally in the United States of America.

WE MUST NOT FUND THIS SENSELESS BOMBING

(Mr. PAUL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, how many innocent civilians must die before we stop bombing Serbia? We rightfully cherish the lives of our three servicemen and rejoice in their return, but how many Serbs will never rejoice because of all the death and destruction we have rained down upon them by casually dismissing as necessary mistakes of war a war that is not real to us yet only too real to those who are needlessly killed.

Serb victims are people, too, who love their families and hate the war, yet become the victims of this ill-conceived policy of NATO aggression. It is a strange argument, indeed, that the capture of our three soldiers was illegal and yet our bombing of civilians is not. Violence, when not in one's own self-defense, can never be justified, no matter how noble the explanation. It only makes things worse.

The goal of peace and harmony can never be achieved by bombs and intimidation. That goal can only be achieved by honest friendship and trade when permissible and neutrality when armed conflict prevents it. We must not fund this senseless bombing.

TEACHERS LIKE DAVE SANDERS, SHANNON WRIGHT AND CHRISTA MACAULIFFE ARE AMERICAN HEROES

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute America's educators during Teacher Appreciation Week. It is essential in these trying times at our schools that we pay tribute to the professionals who give so much to their work with our communities' children.

Every day 3 million American teachers go to work. They arrive early in the morning and often stay late at night. Their dedication under supremely difficult circumstances cannot be adequately described, but through all this hard work they open a world of opportunity for our children and bring endless possibilities to our communities and to the future of our country. Every day they work their miracles in the classrooms. We entrust them with our most precious resource, our young people.

Tragically, Mr. Speaker, some pay the ultimate sacrifice. Teachers like Dave Sanders of Littleton, Colorado, or Shannon Wright of Jonesboro, Arkansas, and astronaut Christa McAuliffe are American heroes. We salute their memory and their colleagues this week.

THIS IS TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, this is Teacher Appreciation Week. Almost every Member of this body can think of a special teacher who has touched his life in ways that have never been forgotten, can never be repaid and can only be appreciated by those who have benefited from such good fortune.

There are special teachers with extraordinary talents in every kind of school in America, in rich and poor, urban and rural, public and private. Great teachers give something of themselves that we take with us for the rest of our lives. It is one of the most rewarding aspects of being a teacher.

But great teachers do not get the recognition they deserve. Their contributions are so great, they ought to have an entire week devoted to their achievement, and so they have. This is their week, and I join with my colleagues in paying tribute to the wonderful gifts teachers have brought to all of us during their teaching careers.

Teaching is a noble profession, and it is an honor for me to salute all those great teachers who are proud to have made teaching their passion and their life's work.

WIC—MORE THAN JUST FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, IT IS GOOD FOR AMERICA

(Mr. FILNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)